



NEWSLETTER

VIRGINIA IMMUNIZATION INFORMATION SYSTEM
VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

APRIL—JUNE 2020

What's New...

Did You Know?

Maintaining Childhood Immunizations During COVID-19 Pandemic

Official guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): "The COVID-19 pandemic is changing rapidly and continues to affect communities across the United States differently. Some of the strategies used to slow the spread of disease in communities include postponing or cancelling non-urgent elective procedures and using telemedicine instead of face-to-face encounters for routine medical visits.

Ensuring the delivery of newborn and well-child care, including childhood immunization, requires different strategies. The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) has provided a list of strategies to separate well visits from sick visits. A full list can be found here: <https://services.aap.org/en/pages/covid-19-clinical-guidance-q-a/>. A few examples include:

- Scheduling well visits in the morning and sick visits in the afternoon.
- Separating patients spatially, such as by placing patients with sick visits in different areas of the clinic or another location from patients with well visits.
- Collaborating with providers in the community to identify separate locations for holding well visits for children.

Because of personal, practice, or community circumstances related to COVID-19, some providers may not be able to provide well child visits, including provision of immunizations, for all patients in their practice. **If a practice can provide only limited well child visits, healthcare providers are encouraged to prioritize newborn care and vaccination of infants and young children (through 24 months of age) when possible.** CDC is monitoring the situation and will continue to provide guidance."

Questions About COVID-19?

All questions or concerns about COVID-19 are handled by the Virginia COVID-19 Hotline: 1-877-ASK-VDH3.

Division of Immunization

Staff Updates

Codi LaPaglia is the new Southeast Virginia Vaccines Quality Assurance Consultant with the Virginia Vaccines for Children Program (VVFC). Codi has a Bachelor's degree and has extensive experience and a wealth of knowledge about compliance and eligibility.

Richard Bradley, will serve as the main contact for organizations needing to set up electronic data exchange with VIIS. Please send inquiries to: VIIS.HelpDesk@vdh.virginia.gov.

2020 Immunization Schedules

The CDC has released the most recent Child & Adolescent and Adult Immunization schedules as recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP):

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/hcp/index.html>

VIIS Registration & Training

Are you in need of VIIS training or know a provider or school who wants access?

Contact a VIIS Trainer:

Casey Barham, South East Region

Casey.Barham@vdh.virginia.gov

Sateria Jeffress, South Central Region

Sateria.Jeffress@vdh.virginia.gov

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Visit us online at: <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/immunization/viis>